MEDICINES - WHAT IS A MEDICINES REVIEW?

A medicines review can help improve your treatment and prevent medicine problems. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to organise a review of all your medicines regularly — especially if you or someone you care for is an older person and take several different medicines.

WHY SHOULD I HAVE MY MEDICINES REVIEWED?

Medicine problems like side effects are more common when you get older — and can often occur when your medicines, health, or health care services change.

If you are an older person it is important that your medicines, current health problems and treatment goals are reviewed regularly. This helps to make sure you receive the best treatment.

When your doctor or pharmacist reviews your medicines they will check:

- what medicines you are taking and why
- how many different medicines you take
- the dose of each medicine you take
- how you are taking these medicines
- how well your medicines are working
- side effects or other problems you may have with your medicines.

It's OK to ask questions

If you have questions about your symptoms or the medicines managing your symptoms, speak with your health professional.

Adapted from NPS MedicineWise (2013), What is a medicines review? Choosing Wisely does not assume any responsibility or liability arising from any error or omission or from the use of any information in these resources.